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PATENT

Atty. Docket No. EXT-010CN

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Shuber
SERIAL NO.: 09/870,729 GROUP NO.: 1637
FILED: May 30, 2001 EXAMINER: J. Tung
TITLE: Methods for Detecting Contamination in Molecular
Diagnostics Using PCR

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP NO. 1637**

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the final Office Action for the above-identified patent application, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 2, 2002. Because the end of the shortened statutory period, March 2, 2003, falls on a Sunday, Applicant believes that no fee is due for this submission on March 3, 2003. But the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge additional fees which may be occasioned by this filing to Deposit Account No. 20-0531 under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.